

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

LINDA S. POWERS; WALTHER R. ELLIS, JR.;
CHRISTOPHER R. LLOYD

SER. NO.:

UNKNOWN

FILED HEREWITH:

FOR:

TAXONOMIC IDENTIFICATION OF PATHOGENIC
MICROORGANISMS AND THEIR PROTEINS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

November 12, 2003

Mail Stop New Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please amend Claim 40 and Claim 41 as follows:

40. (Amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the separation of the bound analyte from the excess conjugated ligand is accomplished by via chromatography.

41. (Amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the ligand is conjugated to a magnetic particle and the separation of the bound analyte from the non-binding components of the analyte solution is accomplished by magnetic separation with the ligand being tethered to the magnetic particle by ~~at least fifteen at around forty~~ Å for capture of microorganisms.

Applicant requests that the foregoing Amendment be entered prior to examination.

Respectfully submitted,

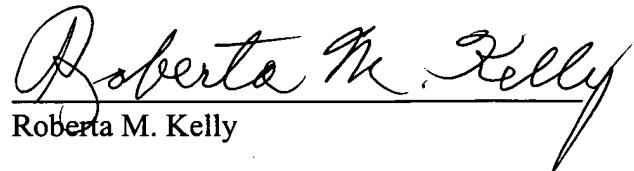


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express Mail EV 057527307 US in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop New Application, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the 12th day of November, 2003.


Roberta M. Kelly